

**ACMH 2022 Annual Fall Conference**

**Wednesday, November 9th Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing, MI**

***We Shall Overcome: Advocacy to Activism***

**Request for Presentations**

This year’s conference theme *We Shall Overcome: Advocacy to Activism* seemed a fitting call to action as we gather back together in the midst of a national crisis in children’s mental health. Indeed, the need to join together to more effectively meet the needs of children, youth and young adults with emotional, behavioral and mental health challenges in our state is great. The time to for Action, Advocacy and Activism to *Overcome* whatever obstacles or resistance stand in our way is now! *We Shall Overcome* has been a civil rights anthem used across the world for over 50 years, but it began as a folk and grass roots work song. So we invite you to join us as we roll up our sleeves and get to work. The problems we face are not new and solving them will not be easy. It will take time, dedication, the perseverance of many and the expertise of all of us especially that of youth and families whose lived experience likely holds the key to real and long-lasting change. The ACMH conference was created as a venue for families and professionals to join together and learn alongside and from another so what better place for us to start.

Please consider joining us to share your expertise, ideas or examples of how we might better support the needs of children and youth with mental health challenges or come together as individuals, families, youth, professionals, peers, teams and systems to solve some of the barriers we collectively face to create real change and a mental health system that works for youth with mental challenges & their families.

ACMH is committed to using our voices, partnerships, platforms and this year’s conference as venues for advocacy and activism to help find or inform solutions so we can finally reach towards our core mission of ensuring that ALL Michigan children and youth with mental health challenges and their families live in safe, welcoming communities with access to needed services and supports. We truly are stronger together and what a better time than this moment to come together as a community dedicated to children’s mental health, to create or renew our connections, share our expertise, support one another, spread some much-needed hope and finally find solutions to the issues we collectively face. Together we can and will create a Michigan where all kids with mental health challenges get the help and support they need when they need it creating a brighter future for them us all!

Conference sessions should be geared toward families of children, youth, or young adults with mental health challenges, as well as the community partners who support them. Workshops will be 75 minutes in length. Presentations that represent this year’s theme and showcase family/community partnerships, creative change efforts, innovative strategies to increase family voice and access to mental health services and supports and those that highlight the importance of family-driven, youth guided care, family voice/choice and peer support will be given priority. The information requested on the following page will be used to select conference sessions and ensure presentations meet the needs of our audience and theme of this year’s conference.

**To submit a proposal complete and submit the form below and return via e-mail to:** Terri Henrizi, ACMH Education Coordinator at: [**thenrizi@acmh-mi.org**](mailto:thenrizi@acmh-mi.org)

Names of Speakers: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Workshop Description: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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**PLEASE NOTE:** *Your completed proposal must be received by* ***Tuesday, October 4th*** *in order to be considered for this year’s event.* If selected, you will receive a workshop confirmation e-mail and additional information by Tuesday, October 11th. Descriptions provided above will be adapted for the conference brochure. Please feel free to use additional space if needed. *Thank you for your time and interest!*

**Questions?** Email [thenrizi@acmh-mi.org](mailto:thenrizi@acmh-mi.org) or call the ACMH State Office at 517-372-4016.

*They say time changes everything...but you actually have to change them yourself.*

*Andy Warhol*